

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 2, 2004, the Examiner noted that claims 1-29 were pending, that claims 27 and 28 have been withdrawn from consideration, allowed claims 11, 13 and 22, objected to claims 3, 4, 7-10, 18, 20, 21 and 24, and rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 14-17, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26 and 29. Claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 18, 20, 21 and 24 have been amended, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 14-17, 19, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 have been canceled, and, thus, in view of the forgoing claims 3, 4, 7-11, 13, 18, 20-22 and 24, remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections and objections are traversed below.

On page 10 of the Action, the Examiner noted that claims 11, 13 and 22 were allowed over the art and on pages 10 and 11 provided a statement of reasons for allowance.

On page 10 the Examiner also indicated that claims 3, 4, 7-10, 18, 20, 21 and 24 would be allowed if put into independent form and on pages 12-13 provided a statement of reasons for allowance. Claims 3, 4, 7-10, 18, 20, 21 and 24 have been so rewritten.

On pages 2-9 the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26 and 29 over various combinations of Rossmann, Bakre, Waters and Dasgupta. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 14-17, 19, 23, 25, 26 and 29 have been canceled.

In an attached Interview Summary the Examiner noted the restriction and the agreement to cancel claims 27 and 28. These claims have been so cancelled.

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1, 11, 14, 16 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. section 112 paragraph 2 as indefinite. Claims 1, 14 and 16 have been cancelled. Claims 11 and 22 have been amended in consideration of the Examiner's comments and it is submitted they satisfy the requirements of the statute. Claim 13 has also been amended to address the same issue. If additional concerns with the claims arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone to resolve the same. Suggestions by the Examiner are also welcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. section 112. It is also submitted that claims 3, 4, 7-11, 13, 18, 20-22 and 24 continue to be allowable. It is further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

Serial No. 09/263,820

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.


Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

6/2/4

By: _____


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